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Highlights

SEQUOIA PARK

GIANT FOREST

Review safety tips on page 5. Take a map, warm clothes, sunglasses, and water. Orient yourself before heading out and tell someone where you are going. You are on your own in the woods — be safe and enjoy! *Use the Sequoia Shuttle system to visit many of these sights between 5/24 and 9/3. See the Shuttle schedule on page 8.*



GIANT FOREST MUSEUM: The best place to start your visit and learn about the Big Trees. *Shuttle stop & transfer point.*

BIG TREES

TRAIL: This 2/3-mile (1km) trail circles Round Meadow. Colorful trailside panels describe sequoia ecology. Start at Giant Forest Museum and follow the paved, accessible trail from there. Allow 1 hour round trip.

GENERAL SHERMAN TREE - MAIN TRAIL & PARKING:

Drive 2 miles (3.2 km) north of Giant Forest Museum (past the first Sherman Tree access which is for those with disabled parking placards only), turn on Wolverton Road, then right to the parking lot. Walk down to the world's largest tree, named in 1879 by a Civil War veteran. *A shuttle stop from 5/24-9/3. Try walking to the tree, then on to the shuttle stop below, and ride back to your car.*

ACCESSIBLE TRAIL A parking area for disabled-parking placards only for the Sherman Tree area. You need a permit to park there (ask at visitor centers if you need one) *or, in summer, take the shuttle.*

CONGRESS TRAIL: A fairly level 2-mile loop (3.2 km) through the heart of the sequoia grove, beginning at the Sherman Tree.

MORO ROCK/CRESCENT MEADOW ROAD

This 3-mile (5 km), dead-end road begins at Giant Forest Museum on the Generals Highway. Not recommended for trail-

ers or RVs (during shuttle season 5/25-9/3, single vehicles more than 22 feet long and those towing something are prohibited - except those with valid disabled parking placards displayed). Highlights include:

MORO ROCK: A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile (.4 km) staircase to the summit (300 foot /91 m elevation gain). A spectacular view of the Great Western Divide and the western half of the park. Two miles (3.2 km) from the Generals Highway. *Summer shuttle stop.*

TUNNEL LOG: A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through. The only "tree you can drive through" in these parks. A by-pass is available for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles (4.3 km) from the Generals Highway.

CRESCENT MEADOW lies at the end of this road. Excellent summer wildflowers in the fragile meadows. Stay on designated trails; walk only on fallen logs into meadows. Here starts the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Tharp's Log, summer home of the first settler in Giant Forest, and the High Sierra Trail, which runs 71 miles (114 km) to Mt. Whitney (14,494 feet /4417 m; highest peak in the lower 48 states). *Summer shuttle stop.*

NEARBY TRAILS

TOKOPAH FALLS: 1.7 miles (2.7 km) along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River, ending below the impressive granite cliffs and waterfall of Tokopah Canyon. Be careful around the water! Start in Lodgepole Campground; 500 foot/152 m elevation gain. Allow 2-1/2 to 3 hours. *Summer shuttle stop at Lodgepole Campground.*

LITTLE BALDY: Ascend 700 vertical feet (213 m) in 1.7 miles (2.7 km) to a rocky summit with a grand view. Start at Little Baldy Saddle, 9 miles (14 km) north of the Sherman Tree. Allow 3 to 4 hours round trip.

MINERAL KING



The winding, steep road to this valley opens May 25. It ends at 7800' (2380m), the park's highest road. Before then, you need a permit from the Foothills Visitor Center to open a

gate at the park boundary. Many trails lead to higher country and excellent hiking. Some trails may remain snowy through spring. Be sure to learn about marmots, as they often damage parked cars.

THE FOOTHILLS

The Sierra's lower elevations offer more biological diversity — different kinds of plants and animals — than the conifer forests or high-country. Follow spring up as flowers bloom ever higher on the slopes. Watch for ticks and poison oak on foothills trails.



HOSPITAL ROCK PICNIC

AREA: Western Mono people once lived here; exhibits offer insight into their lifestyle. A very short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a waterfall. Be careful! Drownings occur here.

MARBLE FALLS: This trail climbs 3.9 miles (6 km) through chaparral to a lovely cascade. Park near site #14 at Potwisha Campground. Follow the dirt road across the concrete ditch. The trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

PARADISE CREEK: Park at Hospital Rock and walk to Buckeye Flat Campground. Follow the footpath across from site #26 & cross the footbridge over the Middle Fork. The trail then follows Paradise Creek, not the Middle Fork, for just over 1-1/2 mile (1.6 km) before growing faint.

MIDDLE FORK: Leading through chapparral to highcountry, the first miles offer views of Moro Rock and Castle Rocks. Park at Hospital Rock. Walk toward Buckeye Flat Campground and turn left on the dirt road before the campground. Go 1.3 miles (2 km) to a parking area. Panther Creek Falls is 3 miles (5 km) beyond that.

SOUTH FORK

Two trails start at tiny South Fork Campground, at the end of a 13-mile road that leaves Hwy 198 from the west end of Three Rivers. Partly unpaved, the road can be very slippery when wet.

LADYBUG: Hike along the South Fork of the Kaweah River in the upper foothills (moderately steep). From the campground, cross the river via footbridge. The trail ends 3 miles (5 km) up at one of the lowest-elevation sequoia groves.

GARFIELD: A steep 5-mile (8.3 km) one-way climb to Garfield sequoia grove. Start on the south side of the river in the campground.